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Taxonomic notes.—BLAKE²⁵ has discussed the systematic position of *Clibadium* (Compositae), describing also 5 new species; has revised the genus *Dimerostemma* (Compositae), recognizing 6 species, 1 being new and 4 being new combinations; has described new Compositae (chiefly Mexican) under *Vernonia* (3), *Elephantopus*, *Ericameria*, *Erigeron*, *Conyza*, *Grypocarpa*, *Wedelia*, *Alvordia*, *Encelia*, *Simsia* (2), *Steiractinia*, *Pappobolus*, *Verbesina* (2), *Calea*, *Cacalia* (2), besides numerous new varieties, forms, and combinations; and also a new genus (*Rhysolepis*) based on *Viguiera morelensis* Greenm. The same author also describes new spermatophytes (chiefly from British Honduras), among them being a new genus of Apocynaceae (*Belandra*), and 52 new species distributed among 41 genera.

BUTTERS,²⁶ in the first of a series of taxonomic and geographic studies of North American ferns, has discussed the genus *Athyrium* as represented in various regions. In connection with the critical discussion of relationships, involving certain changes of nomenclature, 3 new varieties and several new forms are described under various species. The same author also presents the results of his studies of *Botrychium virginianum* and its American varieties, among which 4 are described as new.

BUTTERS and ST. JOHN²⁷ have described a new species of *Lathyrus* (*L. eucosmus*) from the Rocky Mountain region, and also two new varieties of *L. venosus*.

FERNALD²⁸ has published a fascicle of taxonomic notes, among which the following new species or varieties are described: a new variety of *Polygonum*; new varieties of *Ranunculus Purshii*, *R. pygmaeus*, and *R. reptans*; a new variety of *Anemone multifida*; a new species of *Saxifraga* and a new variety of *S. nivalis*; a new species of *Vitis*; and new varieties of *Cyperus filicinus* and *Aster cordifolius*.

HUTCHINSON²⁹ has published a revision of *Aspidopterys*, a genus of Malpighiaceae which includes a group of tall climbing shrubs of the forests of India and of the Malay Archipelago. He recognizes 22 species, 3 of which are described as new.

OSTERHOUT³⁰ has described a new *Mertensia* (*M. media*) from Colorado, closely related to *M. lateriflora* and *M. amoena*.

²⁵ BLAKE, S. F., Contrib. Gray Herb. no. 52. pp. 106. 1917.

²⁶ BUTTERS, F. K., Contrib. Gray Herb. 19: no. 51. pp. 169-216. pl. 123. figs. 6. 1917.

²⁷ BUTTERS, F. K., and ST. JOHN, H., Studies in certain North American species of *Lathyrus*. Rhodora 19: 156-163. 1917.

²⁸ FERNALD, M. L., Contrib. Gray Herb. New Series, no. 1. Rhodora 19: 133-155. 1917.

²⁹ HUTCHINSON, J., Revision of *Aspidopterys*. Kew Bull. 1917: no. 3. pp. 91-103.

³⁰ OSTERHOUT, GEO. E., A new *Mertensia*. Torreya 17: 175, 176. 1917.

PITTIER³¹ has published a revision of the Mexican and Central American species of *Lonchocarpus*, recognizing 40 species, 24 of which are described as new. He also describes 4 new species of the same genus from South America.

SMALL³² has described a long known but unstudied tree cactus of the Florida Keys as a new species (*Cephalocereus Deeringii*). It had been "assumed to be identical with the species of *Cephalocereus* long known to grow on Key West."

SMITH,³³ in a first paper of a series of studies of *Lupinus*, describes a new species (*L. subvexus*) from California.

SWINGLE³⁴ has described a new genus (*Pamburus*) of Aurantiaceae related to *Citrus*. It is a native of India, and as yet includes only the type species *P. missionis*, which is *Limonia missionis* Wight. The same author³⁵ has also described *Pleiospermium* as another new genus related to *Citrus*, founded on *Limonia* Wight and Arn., and including two species.—J. M. C.

Embryo sac and embryo of Phaseolus.—Miss BROWN³⁶ has described the details of the development of the embryo sac and the embryo of *Phaseolus vulgaris*. The only previous study of this genus was by GUIGNARD in 1881, in his general work on Leguminosae, in which *P. multiflorus* is described. The details for *P. vulgaris* introduce no unusual situation, but it is valuable to know the facts in reference to so conspicuous a species.—J. M. C.

Fruit drop.—HODGSON³⁷ believes he has found a correlation between the June drop of the Washington navel orange and the daily fall in water content of the fruit and foliage. He says, "inasmuch as in the case of certain other plants the abscission of young fruits has been shown to be due to abnormal water relations, it is suggested that such may be the case here."—WM. CROCKER.

³¹ PITTIER, HENRY, The Middle American species of *Lonchocarpus*. Contrib. U.S. Nat. Herb. 20:37-93. pls. 6. figs. 43. 1917.

³² SMALL, JOHN K., The tree Cacti of the Florida Keys. Jour. N.Y. Bot. Gard. 18:199-203. pl. 206. 1917.

³³ SMITH, CHARLES PIPER, Studies in the genus *Lupinus*. 1. A new species of the subgenus *Platycarpus*. Bull. Torr. Bot. Club 44:405, 406. 1917.

³⁴ SWINGLE, WALTER T., *Pamburus*, a new genus related to *Citrus*, from India. Jour. Wash. Acad. Sci. 6:335-338. 1916.

³⁵ ———, *Pleiospermium*, a new genus related to *Citrus*, from India, Ceylon, and Java. Jour. Wash. Acad. Sci. 6:426-431. 1916.

³⁶ BROWN, MABEL MARY, The development of the embryo sac and of the embryo in *Phaseolus vulgaris*. Bull. Torr. Bot. Club 44:535-544. pls. 25, 26. 1917.

³⁷ HODGSON, R. W., Some abnormal water relations in *Citrus* trees of the arid southwest and their possible significance. Univ. Calif. Publ. Agric. Science 3:37-54. 1917.